

U.S. Department of Justice

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NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Lamont Isaac Christian, age 25, a Newport News resident, was sentenced to a combined 406 months imprisonment yesterday in United States District Court in Norfolk, upon his convictions of conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, use of a firearm in relation to drug trafficking, being a felon in possession of a firearm, conspiracy related to identification documents, identity theft, and mail fraud.

Between 1999 and 2002, Christian travelled from Newport News, Virginia, to New York to obtain cocaine which he would then transport to our area and convert to crack cocaine for further redistribution to others. Christian also dealt in marijuana. In total, the defendant was attributed with approximately 1.7 kilograms of crack cocaine, 405 grams of cocaine, and approximately 24 kilograms of marijuana. Christian carried a firearm while dealing drugs. Additionally, Christian would traffick in firearms by having others purchase firearms for him at several Hampton Roads area federal firearms licensees. He would then transport to the firearms to New York and sell them on the streets to persons who were prohibited from buying them legally.

Further, from April through August 2001, Christian obtained false military identifications containing the names and personal identifying information belonging to actual active duty military members but bearing the pictures of Christian and other conspirators. Christian and his conspirators also obtained an Alpha Roster containing the names of thousands of military members and their personal information including: name, rank, social security number, date of birth and address. This roster has not been recovered. Christian and the conspirators used the false military identifications to fraudulently obtain and attempt to obtain lines of credit for monies, goods, and services from various business establishments, including Car Smart, Kay Jewelers, J C. Penney, J. B. Robinson Jewelers and other businesses, in the names of the military members.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Newport News Police Department. Assistant United States Attorneys Lisa R. McKeel and Howard J. Zlotnick prosecuted the case for the United States.

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